

# FEUDALISM IN EUROPE

IN 911 CE – TWO FORMER ENEMIES MET & CREATED AN IMPORTANT AGREEMENT

VIKING RULER



KING ROLLO  
(Robert the First)

LAND  
(Normandy)

GRANTED

PLEGDED

LOYALTY  
(& Service)

THIS AGREEMENT BECAME THE  
FOUNDATION OF A NEW  
SOCIAL CLASS SYSTEM

# FEUDALISM

FRANKISH RULER



KING CHARLES  
(The Simple)

# FEUDALISM and the MANOR SYSTEM

Developed in Three Key Areas of the World



(850 -1450 CE)

EUROPE



(1100 – 256 BCE)

CHINA



(1192 – 1867 CE)

JAPAN

# FEUDALISM

System based on Land Tenure and Three Primary Influences:

- Land
- Loyalty
- Service



Japanese Samurai



Samurai

Plan of a Mediaeval Manor.



# FEUDALISM

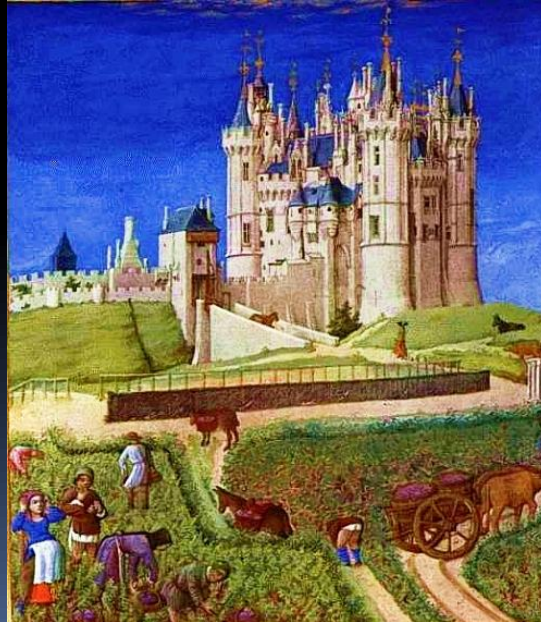
## Had a Basic Social Class System



1. Land Owner: NOBLE LORD
2. Land Manager: VASSAL
3. Key Defender: FEUDAL KNIGHT
4. Key Laborer: PEASANT SERF

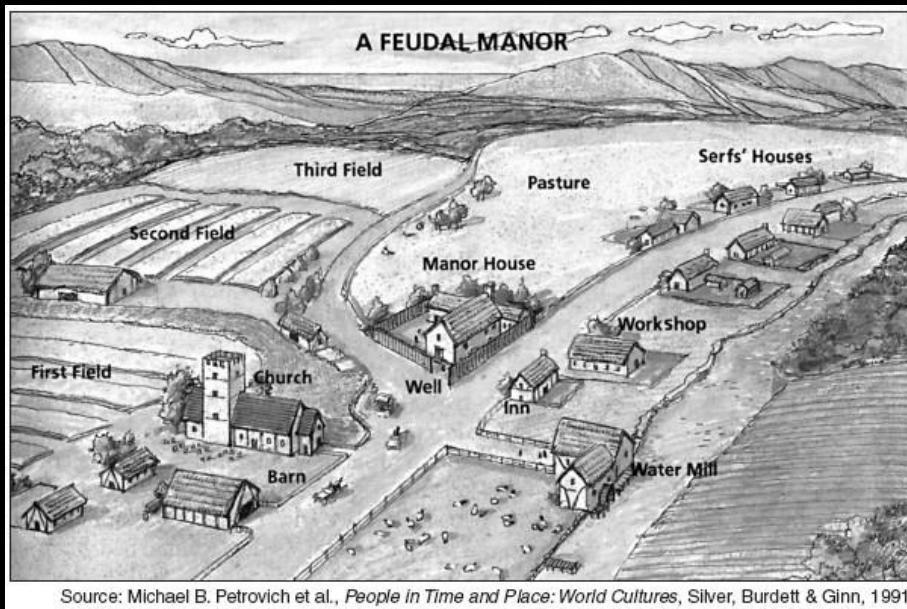
THE BASIC  
ECONOMIC CENTER

FEUDAL MANOR or  
ESTATE  
(Often Called a Fief)



PRIMARY PEASANT  
OBLIGATIONS

1. WORK THE LAND  
(Planting & Harvesting)
2. TEND THE ANIMALS
3. PAY TAXES  
(Percentage of Harvest)



## FEUDAL ESTATE (FIEF or SHOEN)

Self-Sufficient Economic  
Foundation of the Feudal  
System

- CASTLE or DONJON = Central Fortification and Home of the Noble Lord
- MANOR VILLAGE = Economic Center of the Feudal Fief or Shoen
- CHURCH or TEMPLE = Spiritual Center of the Feudal Manor or Shoen
- WORKSHOPS and STORES = Producers of Crafts and Manufactured Goods
- MILL and GRAINERY = Producer and Storage of Processed Foods
- FIELDS and PASTURES = Primary Producers of Food for the Manor or Shoen

# FEUDAL SOCIETY IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE



## How Feudalism Works

### KING

Provides money, army on demand  
Bestows land on his many Nobles

### NOBILITY

Provides military service  
and protection on demand

Bestows land on  
his many Knights

### KNIGHTS

Provides military service  
and food on demand

Bestows land on  
his many Vassals

### VASSALS

- Kings and Royalty (Political Authority)
- Barons and Bishops (Land Managers)
- Knights and Nobles (Feudal Defenders)
- Artisans and Merchants (Economists)
- Villains and Serfs (Food Producers)

# FEUDAL SOCIETY IN JAPAN

## Samurai Society



**Emperor**  
The emperor was a figurehead for the powerful shogun.



**Shogun**  
A powerful military leader, the shogun ruled in the emperor's name.



**Daimyo and Samurai**  
Daimyo were powerful lords who often led armies of samurai. Samurai warriors served the shogun and daimyo.



**Peasants**  
Most Japanese were poor peasants who had no power.

Political Leader

Nobles

Warriors

Paid Soldiers

Farmers and Fishermen

Crafts People

Sales People

Emperor

Shogun

Daimyos

Samurai

Ronin

Peasants

Artisans

Merchants

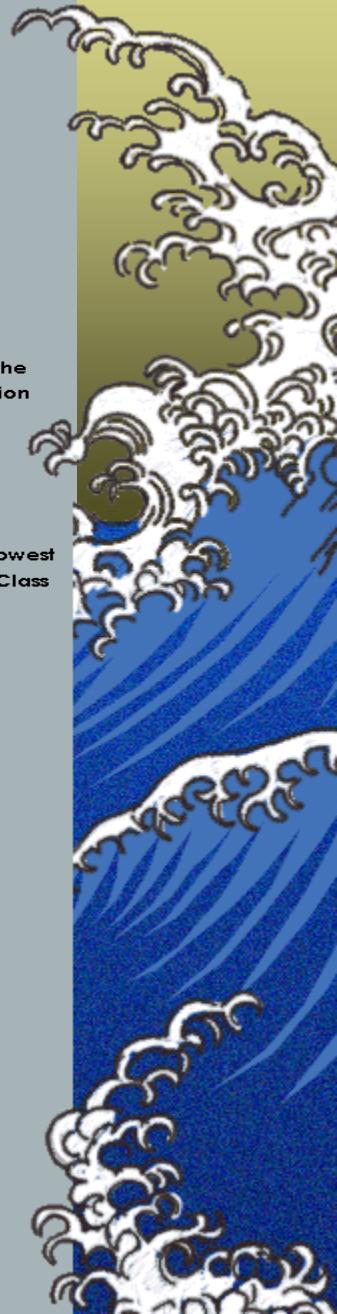
Figurehead

Warrior Class

90% of the Population

Lowest Class

- Emperor (Divine Authority)
- Shogun (Military Authority)
- Daimyos (Land Managers)
- Samurai (Feudal Defenders)
- Peasants (Food Producers)
- Artisans and Merchants



# COMPARING PEASANTS IN FEUDAL SOCIETY

## RESTRICTIONS ON PEASANT FARMERS



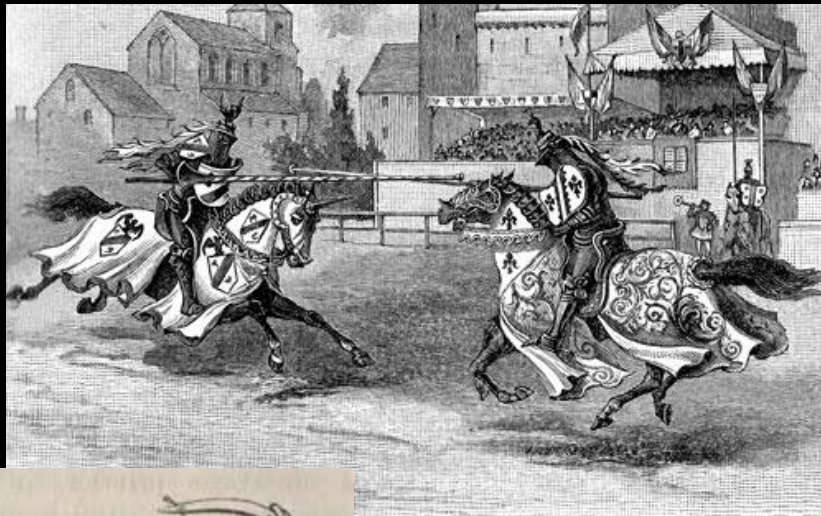
1. Could not get Married  
(without permission from the feudal lord)
2. Could not leave the Estate  
(without permission from the feudal lord)

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SERFS and SLAVES

1. Slaves were property that could be bought & sold
2. Serfs were people who could not be bought and sold



# EUROPE'S FEUDAL DEFENDERS



## KNIGHTS

- Nobles by Birth
- Usually the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Son (Began training at age 8)
- Heavy Cavalry
- "Chivalry" as a Code of Honor

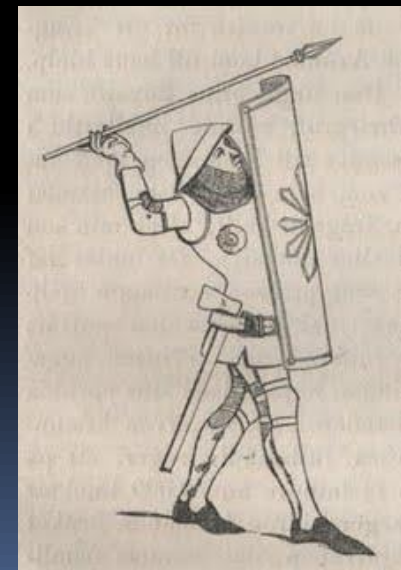


## ARCHERS

- Middle Class
- Medieval Artillery

## FOOT SOLDIERS

- Lower Class
- Medieval Infantry



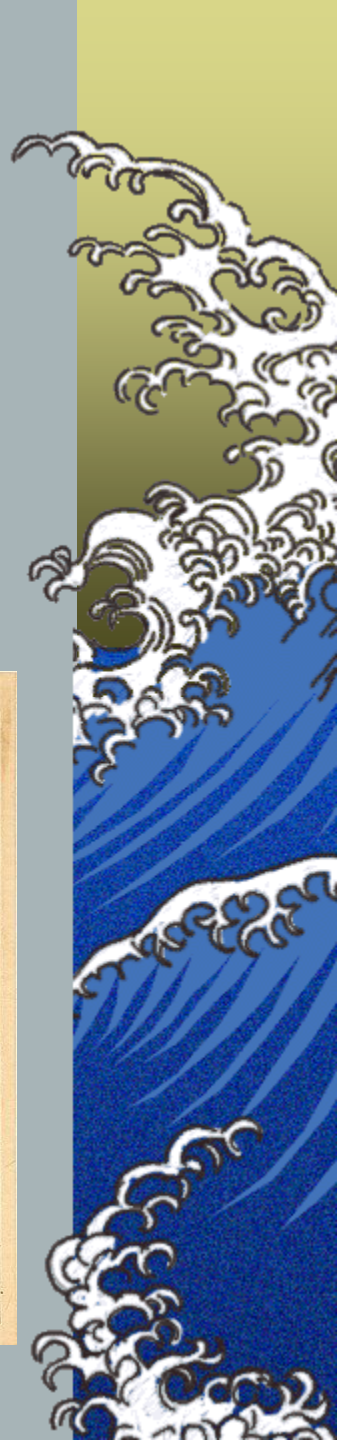


# SAMURAI

- Noble By Birth
- All sons trained in the ways of the Warrior (Began training at age 5)
- “Bushido” as the Code of Honor
- Service based on honor & loyalty

# RONIN

- Samurai who are without a Lord and Master
- Usually serve as Archers or Foot Soldiers (Infantry)
- Professional soldiers paid for services



# FEUDAL WARRIOR'S TRAINING



## SWORDSMENSHIP

Detailed skill and expertise with the bladed weapons



## ARCHERY

Detailed skill and expertise with various bow and arrows

## HORSEMANSHIP

Expertise in equestrian skills and the use of weapons on horseback



# FEUDAL WARRIOR'S TRAINING



## SELF DEFENSE

Skills and expertise in Wrestling, Boxing or Martial Arts



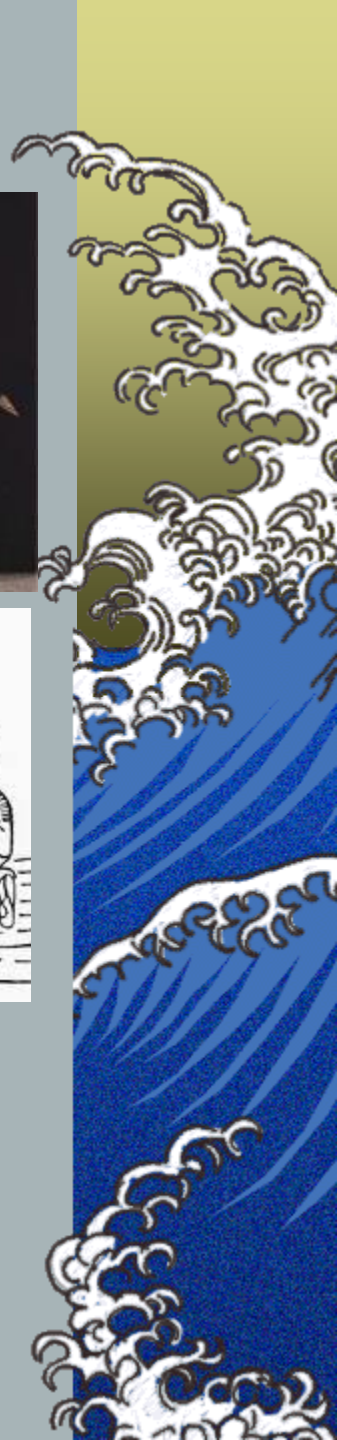
## EDUCATION

Well educated in the skills of Reading & Writing

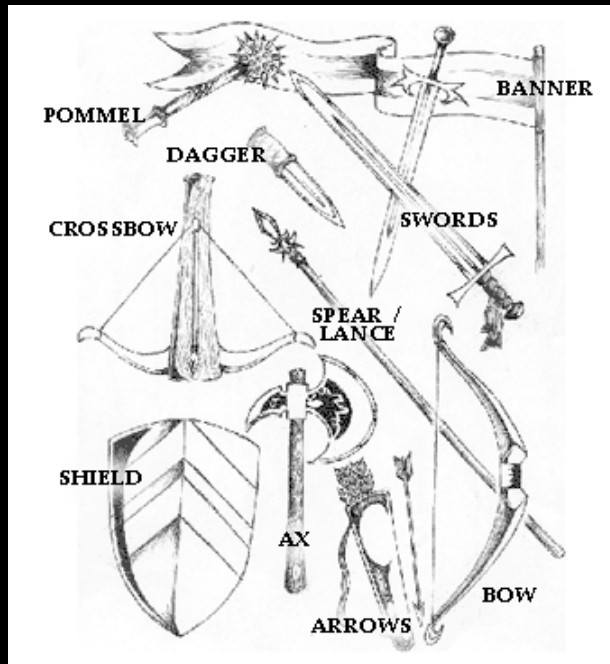


## PRAYER & MEDITATION

Immersed in their faith and the rituals of worship



# FEUDAL WEAPONS



## Knight's Primary Weapons

- Broadsword
- Dagger (Short sword or knife)
- Bow and Arrows
- Lance

## Samurai Primary Weapons

- Katana (Curved Sword)
- Tanto (Short Sword or Dagger)
- Kyudo (Bow and Arrows)
- Yari (Spear or Lance)



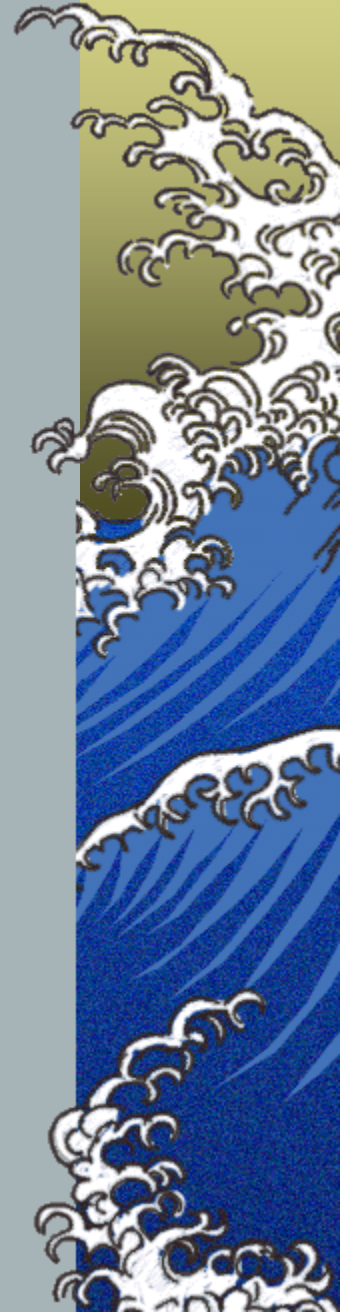
## Samurai Armor

- Helmet with Dragon Mask
- Body Armor (Layered Iron plates)
- Silk Kimono (Under garments)
- Gauntlets (Protective Gloves)
- Greaves (Metal or Leather protection for arms & legs)



## Knight's Armor

- Helmet with Faceplate
- Body Armor (Breast plate & Torso)
- Chain Mail (Iron-ring under garments)
- Gauntlets (Protective Gloves)
- Greaves (Metal or Leather protection for arms & legs)





# WARRIOR'S CODE

## CHIVALRY

Knighthly Virtues  
and Service to  
God, King, & Lady

### The Chivalric Virtues

- Justice (Seek the path of righteousness)
- Courage (Brave and Truthful in all things)
- Largesse (Charitable and generous to all)
- Dignified (Respect for all regardless of class)
- Honesty (Humility, Modesty & gentle spoken)
- Honor (Holding to all the virtues of Nobility)
- Loyalty (Unwavering commitment)
- Faith (Steadfast in his beliefs and God)

## BUSHIDO

Selfless Service  
through the  
“Way of the Warrior”

### The Virtues of Bushido

- Gi – Righteous Justice
- Yu – Courage (Bravery)
- Jin – Benevolence (Charity)
- Rei – Respect (Dignity)
- Makoto - Honesty (Fidelity)
- Meiyo - Honor (Integrity)
- Chugi – Loyalty (Devotion and  
Dedication to one's Faith)



# CASTLES OF MEDIEVAL EUROPE



[scotland-flavour.co.uk](http://scotland-flavour.co.uk)



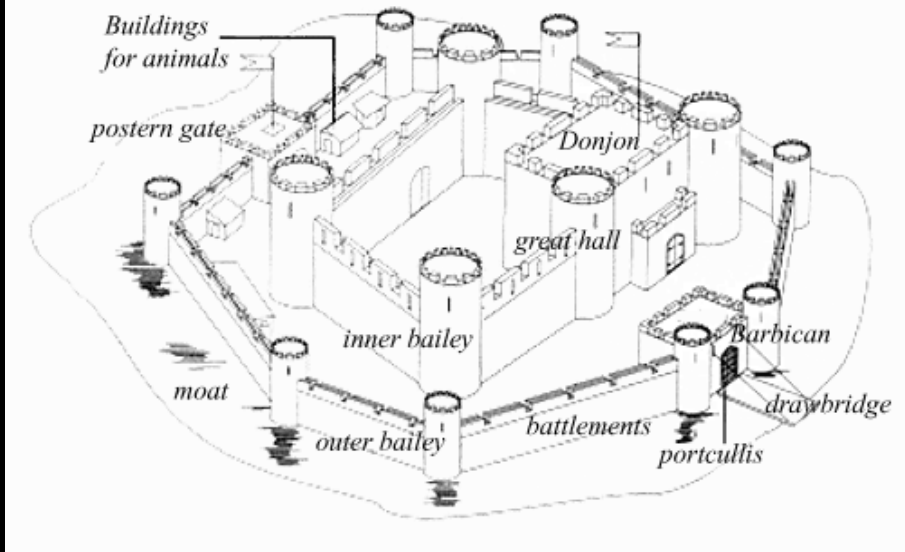




# JAPANESE FEUDAL CASTLES (DONJON)



Diagram of a medieval castle



# FEUDAL CASTLE or DONJON

Primary Defensive System  
of the Manor or Shoen

## STANDARD STRUCTURE of the CASTLE (DONJON)

- Moat (Usually not filled with water in Europe)
- Drawbridge (Europe Only) or Bridge (Both)
- Gatehouse or Barbican (Guardhouse)
- Outer Bailey (Outer Ward or Compound)
- Inner Bailey (Inner Ward or Compound)
- Castle Keep or Donjon (Nobles Residence)

